



Version 1.0808

**EpiQuik™ Global Pan-Methyl Histone
H3-K4 Quantification Kit (Colorimetric)**

Catalog No. P-3028

User Guide*

***Always use the most updated User
Guide included in your current order.**

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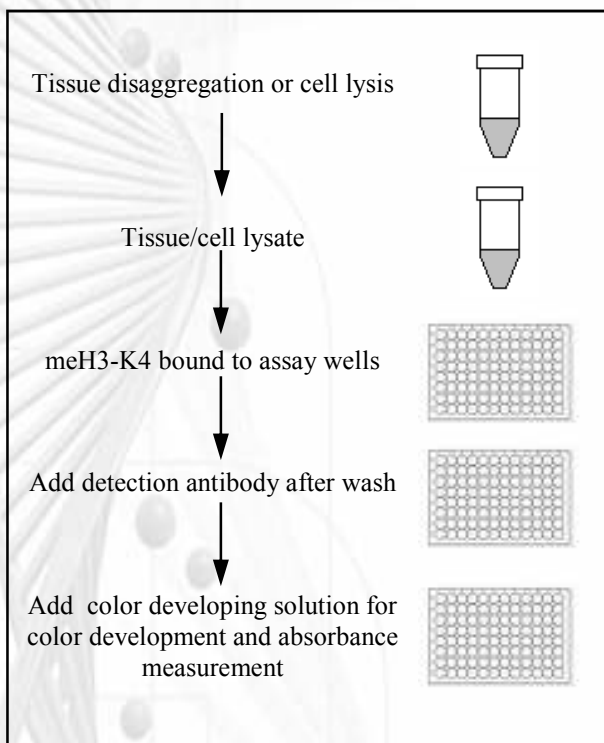
INTRODUCTION

Epigenetic activation or inactivation of genes play a critical role in many important human diseases, especially in cancer. A major mechanism for epigenetic inactivation of the genes is methylation of CpG islands in genome DNA caused by DNA methyltransferases. Histone methyltransferases (HMTs) control or regulate DNA methylation through chromatin-dependent transcription repression or activation. HMTs transfer 1-3 methyl groups from S-adenosyl-L-methionine to the lysine and arginine residues of histone proteins. SET1, SET7/9, Ash1, ALL-1, MLL, ALR, Trx, and SMYD3, are histone methyltransferases that catalyze methylation of histone H3 at lysine 4 (H3-K4) in mammalian cells. H3-K4 monomethylation is associated with silenced euchromatin regions in the genome and may serve as a global epigenetic mark and function in gene repression. In contrast, di- and tri-methylation is associated with transcriptionally active euchromatin regions in the genome and may serve as a global epigenetic mark of highly transcribed genes. Increased global H3-K4 methylation is also found to be involved in some pathological processes such as cancer progression. The patterns of global H3-K4 methylation can also be changed by inhibition or activation of HMTs. Thus, quantitative detection of the patterns of global histone H3-K4 methylation would provide useful information for better understanding epigenetic regulation of gene activation and for developing HMT-targeted drugs. The *EpiQuik*[™] Global Pan-Methyl Histone H3-K4 Quantification Kit (Colorimetric) provides a tool for measuring global mono-, di-, and tri-methylation of histone H3-K4. The kit has the following features:

- Quick and efficient procedure, which can be finished within 2.5 hours.
- Innovative colorimetric assay without the need for radioactivity, electrophoresis, or chromatography.
- Simultaneous quantification of mono-, di-, and tri-methylated H3-K4 with the detection limit as low as 2 ng/well and detection range from 20 ng-5 μ g/well of histone extracts.
- The control is conveniently included for the quantification of the amount of mono-, di-, and tri-methylated H3-K4.
- Strip microplate format makes the assay flexible: manual or high throughput.
- Simple, reliable, and consistent assay conditions.

PRINCIPLE AND PROCEDURE

The *EpiQuik*[™] Global Pan-Methyl Histone H3-K4 Quantification Kit (Colorimetric) is designed for simultaneously measuring global histone H3-K4 mono-, di-, and tri-methylation. In an assay with this kit, the methylated histone H3 at lysine 4 is captured to the strip wells coated with antibodies specifically for mono-, di-, and tri-methyl H3-K4. The captured mono-, di-, and tri-methylated histone H3-K4 can then be detected with a labeled detection antibody, followed by a color development reagent. The ratio of mono-, di-, and tri-methylated H3-K4 is proportional to the intensity of absorbance. The absolute amount of the methylated H3-K4 can be quantitated by comparing to the standard control.



Schematic Procedure for Using the *EpiQuik*[™] Global Pan-Methyl Histone H3-K4 Quantification Kit (Colorimetric)

PRODUCT USE INFORMATION

The *EpiQuik*[™] Global Pan-Methyl Histone H3-K4 Quantification Kit (Colorimetric) is suitable for simultaneously measuring global histone H3-K4 mono-, di-, and tri-methylation using a variety of mammalian cells (human, mouse, etc.) including fresh and frozen tissues, and cultured adherent and suspension cells.

The *EpiQuik*[™] Global Pan-Methyl Histone H3-K4 Quantification Kit (Colorimetric) is for research use only and is not intended for diagnostic or therapeutic application.

Suitable lab coat, disposable gloves, and eye protection are required when working with the kit.

Epigentek guarantees the performance of all products in the manner described in our product instructions.

Epigentek reserves the right to change or modify any product to enhance its performance and design.

EpiQuik[™] is a trademark of Epigentek Group Inc.

The *EpiQuik*[™] Global Pan-Methyl Histone H3-K4 Quantification Kit (Colorimetric) and methods of use are covered by a pending US patent.

KIT CONTENTS

Components	96 assays P-3028-96
C1 (10X Wash Buffer)	20 ml
C2 (Antibody Buffer)	12 ml
C3 (Detection Antibody, 1 mg/ml)*	10 μ l
C4 (Color Developer)	10 ml
C5 (Stop Solution)	6 ml
Standard Control (100 μ g/ml)*	20 μ l
8-Well Sample Strips (with Frame)	9
8-Well Standard Control Strips	3
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* For maximum recovery of the products, centrifuge the original vial prior to opening the cap.

SHIPPING AND STORAGE

The kit is shipped in two parts: one part at ambient room temperature, and the second part on frozen ice packs at 4°C.

Upon receipt: (1) Store **C3** and **Standard Control** at -20°C; (2) Store **all other components** at 4°C away from light. The kit is stable for up to 6 months from the shipment date, when stored properly.

Note: Check if buffers, **C1** and **C2**, contain salt precipitates before using. If so, warm (at room temperature or 37°C) and shake the buffers until the salts are re-dissolved.

MATERIALS REQUIRED BUT NOT SUPPLIED

Orbital shaker
Pipettes and pipette tips
Reagent reservoir
Microplate reader

PROTOCOL

- Prepare histone extracts from cells/tissues treated or untreated by using your own successful method (acid extraction or high salt extraction).
 - For your convenience and the best results, Epigentek offers the *EpiQuik*[™] Total Histone Extraction Kit (Cat. No. OP-0006) optimized for use in the *EpiQuik*[™] modified histone quantification series.
 - Preparation of histone extracts can also be performed using the attached procedure (See Appendix). Histone extracts can be used immediately or stored at -80°C for future use.
- Determine the number of strip wells required. Leave these strips in the plate frame (remaining unused strips can be placed back in the bag. Seal the bag tightly and store at 4°C). Dilute **C1** with distilled water (pH 7.2-7.5) at a 1:10 ratio (ex: 1 ml of **C1** + 9 ml of water).
- Add $50\ \mu\text{l}$ of **C2** into each well. For the sample, add 1-2 μg of the histone extract into the sample wells. For the standard curve, dilute the **Standard Control** with **C2** to 1 – 100 $\text{ng}/\mu\text{l}$ at 5-7 points (e.g., 1.5, 3, 6, 12, 25, 50, and 100 $\text{ng}/\mu\text{l}$). Add $1\ \mu\text{l}$ of **Standard Control** at the different concentrations into the standard wells. For the blank, do not add any nuclear extracts or standard control protein. Mix and cover the strip wells with Parafilm M and incubate at room temperature for 1-2 hours.
- Aspirate and wash the wells with $150\ \mu\text{l}$ of **diluted C1** three times.
- Dilute **C3** (at a 1:1000 ratio) to $1\ \mu\text{g}/\text{ml}$ with **C2**. Add $50\ \mu\text{l}$ of **diluted C3** to each well and incubate at room temperature for 60 minutes on an orbital shaker (100 rpm).
- Aspirate and wash the wells with $150\ \mu\text{l}$ of **diluted C1** six times.
- Add $100\ \mu\text{l}$ of **C4** into the wells and incubate at room temperature for 2-10 minutes away from light. Monitor the color development in the sample and standard wells (blue).
- Add $50\ \mu\text{l}$ of **C5** to each well to stop enzyme reaction when the color in the standard wells containing the higher concentrations of standard control turns medium blue. The color should change to yellow and absorbance can be read on a microplate reader at 450 nm within 2-15 minutes.

(Continued on Next Page)

9. Calculate % mono-, di-, or tri-methyl H3-K4:

$$\text{Methylation \%} = \frac{\text{OD (treated (tested) sample - blank)}}{\text{OD (untreated (control) sample - blank)}} \times 100\%$$

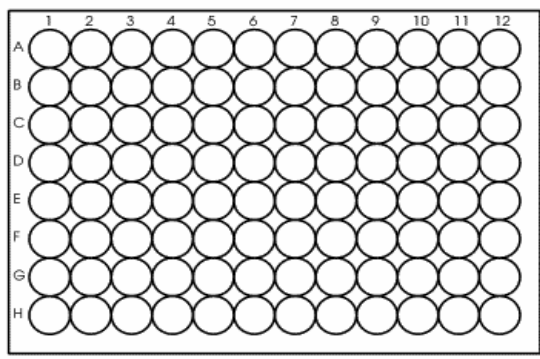
For the amount quantification, plot OD versus amount of **Standard Control** and determine the slope as delta OD/ng.

Calculate the amount of mono-, di-, and tri-methylated H3-K4 using the following formula:

$$\text{Amount (ng/mg protein)} = \frac{\text{OD (sample - blank)}}{\text{Protein } (\mu\text{g})^* \times \text{slope}} \times 1000$$

* Histone extract amount added into the sample well at step 3.

Plate Configuration



- **Strip 1-3 : standard wells (Labeled as SC); strip 4-12: sample wells**
- The standard curve can be generated with 5-8 concentration points (includes blank). Example amount of standard control/well: **A1**: 100 ng; **B1**: 50 ng; **C1**: 25 ng; **D1**: 12 ng; **E1**: 6 ng; **F1**: 3 ng; **G1**: 1.5 ng; **H1**: 0 ng.
- **Strip 4-6: mono-methyl; strip 7-9: di-methyl; strip 10-12: tri-methyl H3-K4.**
- Each sample or standard point can be assayed in duplicates or triplicates.

Histone Extraction Protocol

1. For tissues (treated and untreated), weigh the sample and cut the sample into small pieces (1-2 mm³) with a scalpel or scissors. Transfer tissue pieces to a Dounce homogenizer. Add TEB buffer (PBS containing 0.5% Triton X 100, 2 mM PMSF and 0.02% NaN₃) at 200 mg/ml, and disaggregate tissue pieces by 50-60 strokes. Transfer homogenized mixture to a 15 ml conical tube and centrifuge at 3000 rpm for 5 minutes at 4°C. If total mixture volume is less than 2 ml, transfer mixture to a 2 ml vial and centrifuge at 10,000 rpm for 1 minute at 4°C. Remove supernatant.

For cells (treated and untreated), harvest cells and pellet the cells by centrifugation at 1000 rpm for 5 minutes at 4°C. Resuspend cells in TEB buffer at 10⁷ cells/ml and lyse cells on ice for 10 minutes with gentle stirring. Centrifuge at 3000 rpm for 5 minutes at 4°C. If total volume is less than 2 ml, transfer cell lysates to a 2 ml vial and centrifuge at 10,000 rpm for 1 minute at 4°C. Remove supernatant.

2. Resuspend cell/tissue pellet in 3 volumes (approx. 200 µl/10⁷ cells or 200 mg of tissue) of extraction buffer (0.5N HCl + 10% glycerol) and incubate on ice for 30 minutes.
3. Centrifuge at 12,000 rpm for 5 minutes at 4°C and remove the supernatant fraction to a new vial.
4. Add 8 volumes (approx. 0.6 ml/10⁷ cells or 200 mg of tissue) of acetone and leave at -20°C overnight.
5. Centrifuge at 12,000 rpm for 5 minutes and air-dry the pellet. Dissolve the pellet in distilled water (30-50 µl/10⁷ cells or 200 mg of tissue).
6. Quantify the protein concentration. Aliquot the extract and store the extract at -20°C or -80°C.

TROUBLESHOOTING

No Signal for Both the Standard Control and the Samples

Reagents are added incorrectly.

Check if reagents are added in order and if any steps of the procedure may have been omitted by mistake.

Incubation time and temperature is incorrect.

Ensure the incubation time and temperature described in the protocol are followed correctly.

No Signal or Very Weak Signal for Only the Standard Control

The amount of standard control is not added into “standard control wells,” or is added insufficiently.

Ensure a sufficient amount of control is properly added to the standard control wells.

No Signal for Only the Sample

The protein sample is not properly extracted.

Ensure the procedure and reagents are correct for the nuclear protein extraction.

The protein amount is added into well insufficiently.

Ensure extract contains a sufficient amount of protein.

Protein extracts are incorrectly stored.

Ensure the protein extracts are stored at -20°C or -80°C .

High Background Present for the Blank

The well is not washed sufficiently.

Check if wash at each step is performed according to the protocol.

Contaminated by the standard control.

Ensure the well is not contaminated from adding the control protein or from using control protein contaminated tips.

Overdevelopment.

Decrease development time in step 7.

ORDERING INFORMATION

Products	Size	Cat. No.
<i>EpiQuik</i> [™] Global Pan-Methyl Histone H3-K4 Quantification Kit (Colorimetric)	96 assays	P-3028-96

Available Related Products

	Cat. No.
<i>EpiQuik</i> [™] Histone Methyltransferase Activity/Inhibition Assay Kit (H3-K4)	P-3002
<i>EpiQuik</i> [™] <i>In Situ</i> Histone H3-K4 Methylation Assay Kit	P-3015
<i>EpiQuik</i> [™] Global Di-Methyl Histone H3-K4 Quantification Kit (Colorimetric)	P-3022
<i>EpiQuik</i> [™] Global Di-Methyl Histone H3-K4 Quantification Kit (Fluorometric)	P-3023
<i>EpiQuik</i> [™] Global Mono-Methyl Histone H3-K4 Quantification Kit (Colorimetric)	P-3024
<i>EpiQuik</i> [™] Global Mono-Methyl Histone H3-K4 Quantification Kit (Fluorometric)	P-3025
<i>EpiQuik</i> [™] Global Tri-Methyl Histone H3-K4 Quantification Kit (Colorimetric)	P-3026
<i>EpiQuik</i> [™] Global Tri-Methyl Histone H3-K4 Quantification Kit (Fluorometric)	P-3027
<i>EpiQuik</i> [™] Global Pan-Methyl Histone H3-K4 Quantification Kit (Fluorometric)	P-3029

Need more components? You can also order parts separately by calling 1-877-374-4368 or e-mailing sales@epigentek.com.

